

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the first signal beam comprises data modulated by a SLM and claim 39 has been amended to clarify that a spatial light modulator (SLM) is located in a path of an incident beam to generate the first signal beam. These amendments are supported by the disclosure, for example, in paragraph [0030] of the specification, stating: "Holographic system 200 includes a reflective spatial light modulator (SLM) 235 for providing data for holograms to be recorded in media 208." No new matter has been added.

Drawing Objections

The attached drawing includes adding "PRIOR ART" caption to Figure 1. This sheet should replace the original sheet.

Claim Objections

Claims 16, 39-77 were objected because of certain informalities. These informalities have been corrected as suggested by the Examiner.

Rejections under 35 USC §112

Claim 77 is rejected as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed and should be withdrawn as claim 77 has been amended in a manner as understood by the Examiner, i.e., the spot in the holographic media is at an image plane of the signal beam.

Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 1, 33-34, 39, 72-73, 77 were rejected as being anticipated by Liu (US 2002/0015376). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Liu specifically deals with bit-wise data, which are *not* data modulated by a SLM. Paragraph [0189] of Liu which specifically states, "In writing data onto the disk 100, a holographic

grating is created at the location of one holographic grating elements 102 to represent *a first of two binary states*.” Emphasis added. The phrase “a first of two binary states” means that Liu’s recording is a bit-wise recording. On the other hand, the embodiments of the claimed invention are based on multiple-bit recording such as a page-wise recording. Only a multiple-bit recording, *not* a bit-wise recording, requires a spatial light modulator (SLM) to be located in a path of an incident beam to generate a first signal beam comprising data modulated by the SLM. In short, Liu does not disclose “a spatial light modulator” or “a signal beam comprising data modulated by a spatial light modulator” as recited in claims 39 and 1, respectively.

Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 32, 71 were rejected as allegedly being unpatentable over Liu (US 2002/0015376) in view of Curtis (US 5,703,705). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has acknowledged that Liu does not disclose that the waists of the signal beams may be formed outside the holographic media and relies on Curtis to fill this gap. As explained above, Liu relates to a bit-wise data recording. On the other hand, Curtis relates to a page-wise data recording. There is no suggestion in the prior art to modify Liu’s bit-wise data recording in a manner taught by Curtis such that the signal beams of Curtis may be formed outside the holographic media. Even if there is such a suggestion, the deficiency of Curtis as disclosing a bit-wise data recording would still remains because there is no suggestion in the prior art to change the a bit-wise recording of Liu to the a page-wise recording of Curtis.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 495812005800. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: **May 11, 2005**

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Raj S. Dave

Registration No.: 42,465

Morrison & Foerster LLP
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20006-1888
Telephone: 202.887.1500
Facsimile: 202.887.0763

Attachments

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached drawing includes adding "PRIOR ART" caption to Figure 1. This Figure 1 sheet will replace the original sheet.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

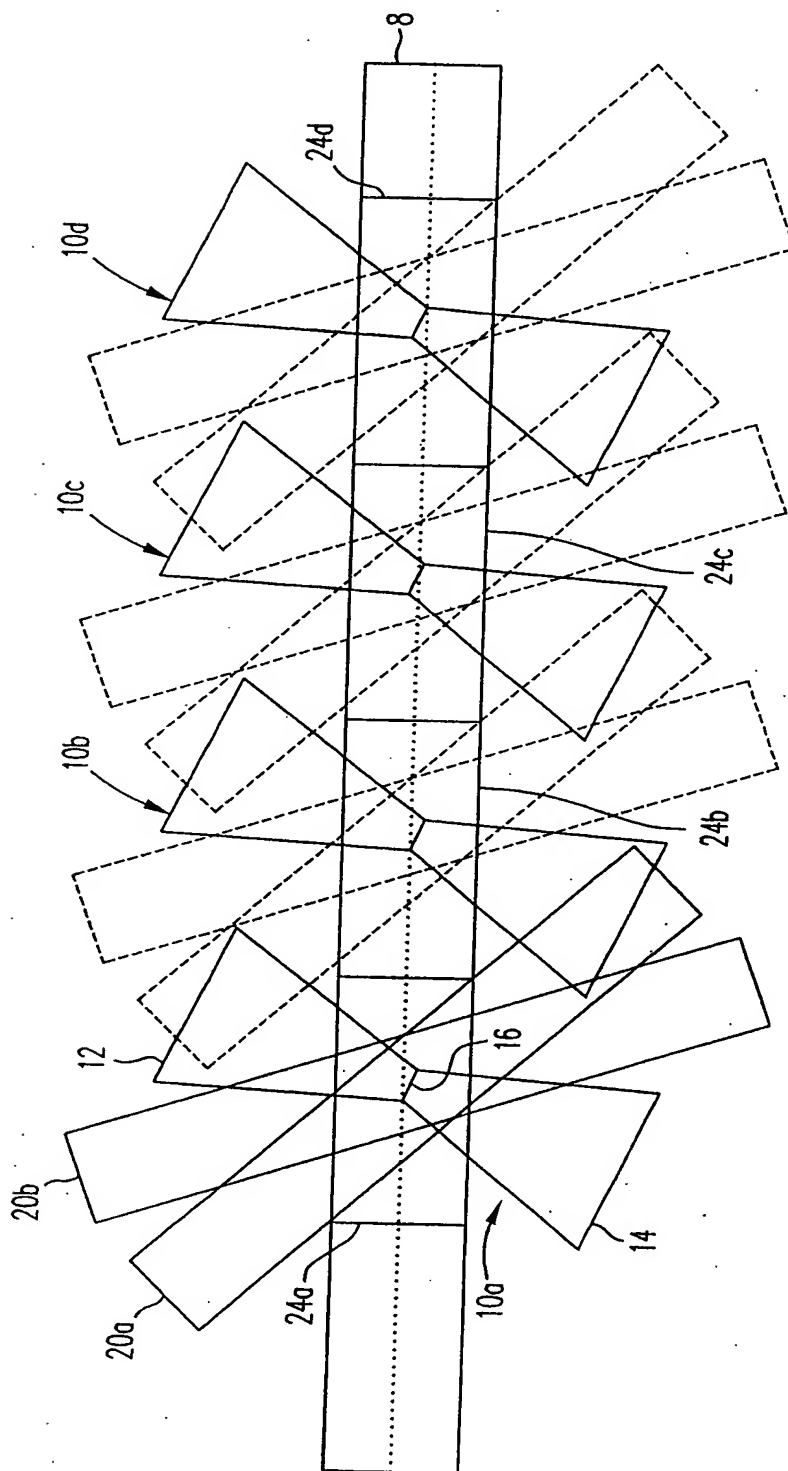


FIG. 1
PRIOR ART